

Nebiogastes

(d. 407)

BRIEFING

Nebiogastes was a Western Roman military officer. He held the position of magister militum in 407, during the reign of Honorius, but not under his command, rather under that of the usurper Constantine of Britain.

DEATH

On December 31, 406, a conglomeration of barbarian peoples invaded Gaul. Shortly thereafter, Constantine of Britain was proclaimed emperor by the troops stationed on the island, and at their command he crossed the Strait and landed on the mainland. Before departing, he appointed Justinian and Nebiogastes as his trusted generals.

The troops stationed in Gaul joined Constantine, and the army advanced along the Rhine into the province of Germania Prima, where they inflicted a resounding defeat on the invaders still present. By then, Honorius's government considered Constantine a greater threat to its interests than the invaders themselves and sent an army against him under the command of Sarus. Constantine, for his part, dispatched a contingent of his troops to confront Justinian, but the battle proved unfavorable, and Justinian fell in combat.

Constantine and Nebiogastes, who were following behind with more troops, had to take refuge in Valentia (Valence), where they were besieged by Sarus. Negotiations then took place between the two armies, and in one of the encounters, Nebiogastes was tricked and captured by Sarus, who executed him.